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RELEASED

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

53

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ACTION EAP-00

ACTION OFFICE CM-05

INFO OCT-01 EP-02 P-01 RA-01 FILE-01 EAP-01 CONG-01
/016 AI VO

INFO LOG-00 ACDA-13 ADS-00 AID-00 AIT-01 AMAD-01 CIAE-00
DOOE-00 DPR-01 EB-00 EUR-00 HA-09 H-01 IURE-00
INR-01 L-03 NEA-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OHS-01 PA-01
PM-00 PRS-01 P-02 SMP-00 SP-02 SS-00 STA-12
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P 260309Z APR 81
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4615
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI
AMCONSUL SHENYANG
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU
AIT TAIPEI 4788
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//FPA//
AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 BEIJING 12135

MSG FOR DOUG PAAL

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PIRA, ECON, CH, US
SUBJECT: FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH

PREMIER LI PENG, APRIL 14 1991

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

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2. SUMMARY. IN AN HOUR LONG MEETING WITH FORMER PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER, CHINESE PREMIER LI PENG EMPHASIZED THAT CHINA HAD ALWAYS OPPOSED IRAQI AGGRESSION AGAINST KUWAIT; HAVING BEEN INVADIED HERSELF, CHINA COULD EMPATHIZE WITH KUWAIT. BOTH PREMIER LI AND PRESIDENT CARTER AGREED THAT THE GULF WAR HAD LEFT SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN ITS WAKE, INCLUDING ONE MILLION REFUGEES AND HEAVY ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE. PRESIDENT CARTER DESCRIBED THE WORK OF THE CARTER CENTER, WHICH HE PRESENTED AS EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE MANY OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH PREMIER LI HAD ARGUED WERE MOST IMPORTANT, INCLUDING CIVIL STABILITY, SUBSISTENCE, HOUSING AND HEALTH CARE. PRESIDENT CARTER ADDED THAT FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND RELIGION WERE EQUALLY IMPORTANT. PREMIER LI, IN A REVEALING ASIDE, EXPRESSED INCREDULITY OVER THE PROBLEM OF THE HOMELESS IN AMERICA, SUGGESTING THAT AMERICA'S HOMELESS EITHER HAD "BAD HABITS" OR WERE UNWILLING TO WORK.

3. URGING PRESIDENT CARTER TO USE HIS INFLUENCE ON BEHALF OF EXTENSION OF MFN FOR CHINA, PREMIER LI OFFERED AN EXPLANATION FOR THE SERIOUS DISCREPANCY BETWEEN CHINESE AND AMERICAN ACCOUNTING OF CHINA'S TRADE SURPLUS AGAINST THE U.S. PREMIER LI SUGGESTED THAT THE U.S. AND CHINA ENTER INTO TALKS TO RESOLVE THE DIFFERENCE IN FIGURES. PRESIDENT CARTER RESPONDED THAT THE KEY ISSUE IN THE MFN DEBATE WAS HUMAN RIGHTS, NOT THE TRADE

IMBALANCE. HE URGED PREMIER LI TO AMNESTY ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE 1989 DEMOCRACY MOVEMENT WHO HAD NOT COMMITTED VIOLENT CRIMES. PREMIER LI RESPONDED THAT,

OVING TO CHINA'S INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO AMNESTY THOSE ALREADY SENTENCED, BUT SAID THAT PERSONS WHO HAD COMMITTED ANY CRIMINAL ACTS MIGHT RECEIVE LENIENT TREATMENT. PREMIER LI CONCLUDED HIS PRESENTATION BY PREDICTING DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR HONG KONG IF MFN WERE BE TO BE REVOKED. END SUMMARY.

4. ON APRIL 14, 1991 FORMER PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER MET WITH CHINESE PREMIER LI PENG AT THE DIAOYUTAI STATE GUEST HOUSE. PREMIER LI WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE ZHU LIN; BY STATE COUNCILLOR AND FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN QICHEN AND HIS WIFE. VICE FOREIGN MINISTER LIU HUAQIU, NORTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR ZHANG YIJUN AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR YANG JIECHI, U.S. DIVISION DEPUTY LIAN ZHENGBAO AND FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR WU JIANMIN ALSO ATTENDED THE MEETING. IN ADDITION TO PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARTER, CARTER CENTER STAFFER JIM BRASHER, AMBASSADOR LILLEY, SCIENCE COUNSELOR ONATE, AID LOO AND POLOFF SCHUCHAT (NOTETAKER) WERE PRESENT ON THE AMERICAN SIDE.

OPENING PLEASANTRIES

5. PREMIER LI WELCOMED PRESIDENT CARTER, NOTING THAT NORMALIZATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WAS ACHIEVED DURING PRESIDENT CARTER'S TIME IN OFFICE. PREMIER LI

SAID THAT THE CHINESE PEOPLE WOULD NEVER FORGET THOSE WHO MADE SUCH HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENTS. LI NOTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD ALREADY MET WITH GENERAL SECRETARY JIANG ZEMIN, STATE COUNCILLOR AND FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN QICHEN, AND STATE COUNCILLOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE EDUCATION COMMISSION LI TIEYING. TONIGHT, SAID LI, IS OUR OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND HAVE A SIMPLE DINNER. PRESIDENT CARTER JOGULARLY REMARKED THAT IT WOULD BE A NEW EXPERIENCE TO HAVE A SIMPLE DINNER IN CHINA. PREMIER LI RESPONDED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WAS QUITE RIGHT; IN THE PAST, SOME FOREIGNERS HAD CRITICIZED

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/016 AL 01

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P 260903Z APR 91

FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4646

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL SHANGHAI

AMCONSUL SHENYANG

AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU

AIT TAIPEI 1789

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 02 OF 08 BEIJING 12135

NSC FOR DOUG PAAL

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PINS, ECON, CM, US

SUBJECT: FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH

CHINA FOR OVER-ELABORATE MEALS, SO NOW THEY ARE
RESTRICTING THEMSELVES TO FOUR DISHES AND ONE SOUP.
PRESIDENT CARTER ANSWERED THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN ONE TO
CRITICIZE SUCH MEALS, HE MERELY ENJOYED THEM.

6. LI SAID THAT THESE COMMENTS WERE FOR THE BENEFIT OF
THE JOURNALISTS PRESENT. PRESIDENT CARTER REMARKED THAT
CNN WAS HERE, POINTING OUT THAT CNN WAS HEADQUARTERED IN
ATLANTA, WHICH WAS ALSO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE CARTER
CENTER. PREMIER LI OBSERVED THAT CNN HAD MONOPOLIZED
COVERAGE OF THE GULF WAR. PRESIDENT CARTER AGREED,
NOTING THAT ALL EMBASSIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD DEPENDED
ON IT. PREMIER LI ADDED THAT DURING THE GULF WAR, THE
AMERICAN NEWS MEDIA WAS HIGHLY CONCENTRATED, WITH CNN
CROWDING OUT ALL THE OTHER NEWS ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THAT
ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT BEEN A SUPPORTER OF THE GULF WAR, HE
HAD WATCHED CNN'S COVERAGE.

THE GULF WAR

7. PREMIER LI RECALLED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD
WRITTEN HIM A LETTER SAYING HE WAS UNWILLING TO SEE THE
USE OF FORCE TO RESOLVE THIS OR OTHER CONFLICTS.
PRESIDENT CARTER ADDED THAT HE HAD SENT THE SAME LETTER
TO PRESIDENT BUSH, PRESIDENT MITTERAND AND PRESIDENT
GORBACHEV. PREMIER LI SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THE EFFECTS
OF THE GULF WAR WOULD BE FELT INCREASINGLY OVER THE
COMING MONTHS. ALTHOUGH THE ALLIED FORCES WON, THE GULF

REGION WAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO ACHIEVE TRANQUILITY. CHINA,
SAID PREMIER LI, WAS GRATIFIED TO SEE THE RESTORATION OF
SOVEREIGNTY TO KUWAIT. HOWEVER, KUWAIT IS NOW A
SHANDLES AND FURNITURE THERE HAS BEEN DESTRUCTION.

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ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE. SMOKE FROM THE BURNING OIL WELLS
IS SAID TO BE MOVING EAST AND THERE ARE ALREADY REPORTS
OF BLACK SNOW IN THE NEPH-LENS.

8. PRESIDENT CARTER OBSERVED THAT, WITH THE EXCEPTIONS
OF SYRIA AND IRAN, WHO HAD GAINED SOME ADVANTAGES, NO
OTHER COUNTRY HAD GAINED ANY ADVANTAGE FROM THE GULF
WAR. PRESIDENT CARTER SAID HE HOPED THAT, IN THE
FUTURE, HE COULD ADDRESS THE DAMAGE BY REBUILDING BOTH
NATIONS WHICH WERE DESTROYED IN THE WAR, IRAQ AND
KUWAIT, AND COULD ALSO DO SOMETHING FOR THE SHIITE AND
KURDISH REFUGEES. THE WAR HAD CREATED ONE MILLION NEW
REFUGEES, AND THERE WERE ALREADY 30 MILLION REFUGEES IN
THE WORLD.

ALASIDE CY 0 AND A SESSIONS

9. PRESIDENT CARTER OBSERVED THAT THE FIRST QUESTION
RAISED BY THE STUDENTS AT THE COLLEGE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
(CFA), AFTER HIS SPEECH TODAY, WAS HOW TO BUILD PEACE IN
THE MIDDLE EAST. PRESIDENT CARTER ADDED THAT HE HAD
BEEN VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE QUALITY OF THE CFA
STUDENTS' QUESTIONS, AND WITH THE QUALITY OF THEIR
ENGLISH. PREMIER LI SAID THAT HE HAD HEARD THE CFA
STUDENTS WERE VERY POLITE TO PRESIDENT CARTER. ON THE
OTHER HAND, AT HIS MOST RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE, THE

AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ASKED HIM MANY DIFFICULT
QUESTIONS. PRESIDENT CARTER INTERJECTED THAT HE WAS
CERTAIN PREMIER LI HAD HANDLED THEM VERY WELL. HOWEVER,
CONTINUED PREMIER LI, HE THOUGHT THAT PRESIDENT CARTER
WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE A COMPARISON AND COULD SEE THAT
ORIENTAL CIVILIZATION WAS NOT INFERIOR TO WESTERN
CIVILIZATION. PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THAT THE CFA
STUDENTS HAD ASKED HIM A QUESTION ABOUT THE U.S.
GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC POLICY, WHICH HE HAD ANSWERED BY
SAYING THAT HE WAS NO LONGER IN THE GOVERNMENT. IT

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/016 A3 VB

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TRSE-00 T-01 USIE-00 /065V

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4647
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI
AMCONSUL SHENYANG
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU
AIT TAIPEI 4790
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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NSC FOR DOUG PAAL

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, MCOY, PINR, ECON, CM, US
SUBJECT: FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH

WOULD HAVE BEEN A VERY EMBARRASSING QUESTION FOR
PRESIDENT BUSH, BUT NOT FOR ME, SAID PRESIDENT CARTER.

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GULF WAR

10. PREMIER LI RETURNED TO THE SUBJECT OF THE GULF WAR.
HE SAID THAT CHINA WAS HAPPY TO SEE KUWAIT LIBERATED,
AND THAT THEY KNEW PRESIDENT BUSH AND THE ALLIED FORCES
HAD PUT A LOT OF EFFORT INTO IT. CHINA'S POSITION WAS
THAT THEY HAD ALWAYS BEEN FULLY OPPOSED TO IRAQI
AGGRESSION AND IN FAVOR OF THE LIBERATION OF KUWAIT,
BECAUSE CHINA HAD ALWAYS HAD GOOD RELATIONS WITH
KUWAIT. DURING THE OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT, EMIR JABIR
AL-SABAH HAD BROUGHT HIS ENTIRE CABINET TO CHINA AND
BRIEFED PREMIER LI ON THE ATROCITIES TAKING PLACE IN
KUWAIT. PREMIER LI RECALLED THAT HE HAD TOLD EMIR JABIR
AL-SABAH THAT CHINA, TOO, HAD BEEN INVADDED AND OCCUPIED
AND HAD SUFFERED, AND THUS THE CHINESE PEOPLE WERE
ACUTELY AWARE OF THE MISERIES SUFFERED BY COUNTRIES
UNDER OCCUPATION.

CHINA'S EXPERIENCE OF OCCUPATION

11. PEOPLE OF MY OWN AGE, PREMIER LI EXPLAINED, HAVE
PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF THE MISERIES CHINA SUFFERED
DURING THE ANTI-JAPANESE WAR. BY THIS, HE WASTENED TO
ADD, HE WAS NOT SAYING ANYTHING AGAINST THE JAPANESE,
SINCE IT WAS THE FAULT OF JAPANESE MILITARISM, BUT
DURING THE WAR THE JAPANESE HAD A "THREE ALL POLICY" OF

"KILL ALL, DESTROY ALL, BURN ALL" AGAINST CHINA. THE
JAPANESE WOULD KILL LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE AND THROW
THEM INTO MASS GRAVES, WITH AS MANY AS 10,000 BODIES IN
ONE GRAVE. EVEN NOW, SAID PREMIER LI, I FEEL FRESHENED

TO THINK OF THOSE THINGS.

THE CHINESE CONCEPT OF HUMAN RIGHTS:
SOVEREIGNTY AND SUBSISTENCE COME FIRST

12. PREMIER LI SAID THAT HE HELD PRESIDENT CARTER IN
GREAT RESPECT, NOT ONLY FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO
U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS, BUT ALSO BECAUSE THE CARTER CENTER
IS VERY MUCH CONCERNED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS. OUR VIEW OF
HUMAN RIGHTS, EXPLAINED PREMIER LI, INCLUDES SUBSISTENCE
AND SOVEREIGNTY. WITHOUT THESE TWO, THERE CAN BE NO
OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS. DURING CHINA'S EIGHT YEARS OF WAR
AGAINST THE JAPANESE AGGRESSORS, 20 MILLION CHINESE
DIED, AND IN THE SOVIET UNION'S FOUR YEAR WAR WITH
GERMANY, THEY ALSO LOST 20 MILLION PEOPLE. HERE, SAID
PREMIER LI, I WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT ANOTHER IMAGE TO
YOU. IN AFRICA, IN PLACES SUCH AS ETHIOPIA WHERE THERE
IS SERIOUS DROUGHT, THERE ARE CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM
MALNUTRITION, VERY THIN, NOTHING BUT SKIN AND BONE. I
CAN'T BEAR TO SEE THOSE CHILDREN ON TV. THUS, WHEN I
THINK OF HUMAN RIGHTS, SAID PREMIER LI PENG, I THINK
THAT YOU HAVE HAVE FOOD FIRST, AND ONLY THEN CAN YOU
HAVE OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS.

U.S. AND CHINA ENTIRELY DIFFERENT SITUATIONS

13. PREMIER LI SAID THAT THE SITUATIONS IN THE U.S. AND
CHINA ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT. THE U.S. HAS LESS THAN
300 MILLION PEOPLE, WHILE CHINA HAS MORE THAN 1.1
BILLION. ALTHOUGH OUR TOTAL AREA IS ABOUT THE SAME,
ONLY ONE-EGINTH OF CHINA'S LAND IS ARABLE -- THE REST IS
MOUNTAIN AND DESERT. CHINA MUST PRODUCE FOOD FOR 22 PCT
OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION ON THAT REMAINING ONE-EIGHTHS
OF ITS TOTAL AREA. ONE FOURTH OF EACH YEAR'S INCREASE
IN GNP IS NEEDED TO TAKE CARE OF THE NEW POPULATION.
EVERY YEAR THERE ARE AS MANY PEOPLE BORN IN CHINA AS THE

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INFO OCT-01 EP-02 P-01 RA-01 FILE-01 EAP-04 CONG-01
/016 01 DT

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4616

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL SHANGHAI

AMCONSUL SHENYANG

AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU

AIT TAIPEI 4731

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 06 BEIJING 12135

MSG FOR DOUG PAAL

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, PGOW, PINR, ECON, CH, US

SUBJECT: FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH

ENTIRE POPULATION OF IRAQ. PREMIER LI SAID THAT CHINA HAD DONE A RELATIVELY GOOD JOB WITH POPULATION CONTROL, COMPARED TO SOME OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, BUT BECAUSE CHINA'S BASE WAS SO LARGE, EVEN A SMALL PERCENTAGE MEANT A LARGE INCREASE IN NUMBERS. AS PREMIER, HIS GREATEST CONCERN WAS NOW TO FEED THESE MORE THAN 1.1 BILLION PEOPLE, THEN HOW TO HOUSE THEM BETTER, AND HOW TO BETTER EDUCATE THEM AND IMPROVE THEIR CULTURAL LIVES.

CARTER CENTER EFFORTS TOWARDS PEACEFUL
RESOLUTION OF CIVIL WARS

14. PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THAT HE SHARED THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY PREMIER LI REGARDING THE VARIOUS KINDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH PEOPLE MIGHT LACK. THE SITUATION IN AFRICA IS VERY BAD, THERE ARE TERRIBLE CIVIL WARS IN ETHIOPIA, SUDAN, SOMALIA, AND MOZAMBIQUE; MORE THAN A MILLION PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN THE ETHIOPIAN CIVIL WAR. THE CARTER CENTER HAS A SPECIAL PROGRAM DEALING WITH THESE SITUATIONS. LAST YEAR, SAID PRESIDENT CARTER, MY WIFE AND I SPENT 26 DAYS NEGOTIATING FOR A SETTLEMENT IN THE ETHIOPIAN CIVIL WAR; TEN DAYS IN ATLANTA, AND 16 DAYS IN NAIROBI.

15. NONE OF THE 38 WARS GOING ON IN THE WORLD, NOW THAT THE GULF WAR IS OVER, ARE BETWEEN NATIONS. THEY ARE ALL CIVIL WARS, AND WITH VERY FEW EXCEPTIONS (SUCH AS KAMPUCHEA) THE UNITED NATIONS IS PROHIBITED FROM DEALING WITH THESE SITUATIONS, BECAUSE IT IS PROHIBITED FROM

NEGOTIATING OR ESTABLISHING CONTACT WITH GROUPS OF REVOLUTIONARIES THAT ARE TRYING TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENTS OF SOVEREIGN STATES. THE U.S. ALSO HAS THE SAME POLICY; FOR EXAMPLE, OUR AMBASSADOR IN KAMPUCHEA

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JIM CHER, HAS NO AUTHORITY TO CONTACT THE REBELS IN THE SOUTHERN SUDAN WHO ARE TRYING TO OVERTHROW THE SUDANESE GOVERNMENT.

16. HOWEVER, THE CARTER CENTER HAS NO SUCH IMPEDEMENTS, EXPLAINED PRESIDENT CARTER, SO IT IS ABLE TO WORK FOR PEACEFUL MEANS TO RESOLVE THESE CONFLICTS. AMONG THE CARTER CENTER'S RECENT SUCCESSSES HAVE BEEN IN ASSISTING WITH ELECTIONS IN COUNTRIES UNDERGOING CIVIL STRIFE. IN THESE COUNTRIES, THE FIGHTING FACTIONS HAVE AGREED TO RESPECT THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS WHEN THEY ARE SUPERVISED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS -- INCLUDING THE CARTER CENTER.

CARTER CENTER PROGRAMS: HEALTH CARE

17. ANOTHER PROGRAM OF THE CARTER CENTER, CONTINUED PRESIDENT CARTER, WHICH WE ARE CARRYING OUT IN CHINA, INVOLVES EDUCATING TEACHERS OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN. THE FACTORY FOR PRODUCING MODERN PROSTHESES, WHICH WAS SET UP IN COOPERATION WITH CHENG PUFANG, IS ANOTHER OF THE 26 INTERNATIONAL HEALTH PROJECTS WHICH THE CARTER CENTER HAS UNDERTAKEN. ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL OF THESE PROGRAMS, STARTED FIVE YEARS AGO, INVOLVES COORDINATING CHILDREN'S VACCINATION PROGRAMS. FIVE YEARS AGO ONLY 20 PCT OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN WERE VACCINATED, BUT NOW OVER 70 PCT OF ALL CHILDREN ARE

IMMUNIZED AGAINST SUCH SERIOUS DISEASES AS POLIO, TUBERCULOSIS, AND WHOOPING COUGH. PREMIER LI INTERJECTED THAT HE WAS A PERSONAL BENEFICIARY OF THE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM, SINCE HIS GRANDCHILDREN HAD BEEN VACCINATED. PRESIDENT CARTER RESPONDED THAT CHINA WAS AN EXCELLENT VACCINATION PROGRAM.

FOOD SUFFICIENCY

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INFO LOG-00 ACDA-13 ADS-00 AID-00 AIT-03 ANAD-01 CIRE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4649
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
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AIT TAIPEI 4792
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
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MSC FOR DOUG PAAL

E.O. 12336: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, PCOF, FINR, ECON, CH, US

SUBJECT: FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH

18. PRESIDENT CARTER NOTED THAT PREMIER LI HAD MENTIONED THE QUESTION OF SUBSISTENCE. THE CARTER CENTER IS VERY MUCH CONCERNED WITH THIS PROBLEM IN AFRICA, WHERE THE PRODUCTION OF FOOD HAS BEEN DECLINING. EVERY AFRICAN TODAY GETS 70 CALORIES LESS, PER DAY, THAN 20 YEARS AGO -- AND THE AVERAGE DAILY CALORIC INTAKE WAS LOW THEN. PRESIDENT CARTER EXPLAINED. THE CARTER CENTER HAS A PROJECT, CALLED GLOBAL 2000, IN COUNTRIES SUCH AS TANZANIA, SUDAN, GHANA AND ZAMBIA, TO HELP FARMERS INCREASE THEIR OUTPUT. THIS PROJECT HAS REACHED 200,000 PEASANT FAMILIES, AND SO FAR THEIR EXPERIENCE IS THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN DIFFICULT TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE PRODUCTION IN THE FIRST YEAR.

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HOUSING

19. LAST, SAID PRESIDENT CARTER, THERE IS HOUSING. WE HAVE A SERIOUS HOUSING PROBLEM IN THE U.S., WITH MANY HOMELESS PEOPLE, WHO HAVE LOST THEIR JOBS AND LOST THEIR HOMES. THE CARTER CENTER IS VERY INVOLVED WITH THE HOUSING PROBLEM. PRESIDENT CARTER TOLD PREMIER LI THAT EACH YEAR HE AND HIS WIFE SPEND A WEEK BUILDING HOUSING WITH AND FOR THE POOREST PEOPLE; THIS YEAR, TOGETHER WITH 1,500 OTHER VOLUNTEERS, THEY BUILT HOUSES FOR 187 FAMILIES.

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LI PENG FINDS AMERICA'S HOMELESS "INCONCEIVABLE"

20. PREMIER LI INTERRUPTED TO SAY THAT, FOR HIM AS A CHINESE, IT WAS REALLY INCONCEIVABLE THAT PEOPLE IN THE

U.S. COULD BE WITHOUT HOUSING, SINCE THE U.S.'S GNP WAS ABOUT 5 TRILLION DOLLARS. PRESIDENT CARTER REPLIED THAT ALTHOUGH IT WAS INCONCEIVABLE, IT WAS NONETHELESS TRUE. IN NEW YORK CITY THERE ARE 50,000 PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO

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HOMES. PREMIER LI SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE PROBLEM WAS THAT THE AVAILABLE HOUSING WAS TOO LOW QUALITY. PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THAT, IN FACT, THE PROBLEM WAS NO HOUSING; THESE WERE PEOPLE WHO HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO SLEEP ON THE STREETS, ON SHEETS OF PLASTIC OR CARDBOARD.

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21. PREMIER LI ASKED WHETHER IT WAS NOT THE CASE THAT THESE PEOPLE HAD "BAD HABITS" OR WERE UNWILLING TO EARN THEIR LIVING THROUGH HONEST LABOR. PRESIDENT CARTER RESPONDED THAT, IN SOME CASES, THIS WAS TRUE, BUT THE CARTER CENTER HAS HOME-BUILDING PROGRAMS IN 50+ CITIES AND MORE THAN 20 COUNTRIES. THEIR EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN THAT THE POOREST PEOPLE ON EARTH, IF THEY ARE GIVEN A CHANCE, WORKING ALONGSIDE RICH PEOPLE SUCH AS HIMSELF AND HIS WIFE, COULD DEVELOP THE INITIATIVE TO BUILD THEIR OWN HOMES.

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FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND RELIGION ALSO IMPORTANT

22. THUS, PRESIDENT CARTER CONCLUDED, THE CARTER CENTER IS DEVOTED TO IMPROVING ALL KINDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING HEALTH, HOUSING AND FOOD -- BUT ALSO INCLUDING FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND FREEDOM OF RELIGION. WE RAISE THE CONCERNS WITH YOU, SAID PRESIDENT CARTER, NOT TO CRITICIZE BUT BECAUSE WE WANT TO EXPRESS OUR BELIEF THAT

YOU SHOULD WORK ON THESE HUMAN RIGHTS AS WELL.

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PREMIER LI EXPRESSES HOPE THAT MFN WILL BE EXTENDED

23. PREMIER LI THANKED PRESIDENT CARTER, THEN SAID HE WISHED TO MAKE A LAST POINT, ABOUT CHINA'S MOST FAVORED NATION (MFN) STATUS. DURING PRESIDENT CARTER'S PRESIDENCY OUR TWO COUNTRIES SIGNED A TRADE AGREEMENT, THE CORE OF WHICH WAS MFN FOR CHINA, SAID PREMIER LI. LAST YEAR, THE ISSUE OF CHINA'S MFN STATUS CAUSED A HUGE DEBATE IN THE U.S. CHINA VERY MUCH APPRECIATES THE

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DOOE-03 DPR-01 EB-00 EUR-00 HA-05 H-01 INRE-00
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P 260909Z APR 91

FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4650

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL SHANGHAI

AMCONSUL SHENYANG

AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU

AIT TAIPEI 4193

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//EPA//

AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 05 OF 08 BEIJING 12135

NSC FOR DOUG PAUL

L.O. 12135: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PIRR, ECHO, CM, US

SUBJECT: FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH

MEASURES TAKEN BY PRESIDENT BUSH TO EXTEND MFN, AND
PREMIER LI WANTED TO MAKE VERY CLEAR THAT CHINA ACCEPS
THAT THIS YEAR THERE WILL BE NO OBSTRUCTION OF OF DAMAGE
TO MFN, WHICH IS AN IMPORTANT BRIDGE BETWEEN CHINA AND
THE U.S.

BILATERAL TRADE IMBALANCE: AN OFFER OF TALKS

24. PREMIER LI SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THERE WAS NOW
ALSO THE ISSUE OF THE TRADE IMBALANCE IN FAVOR OF
CHINA. ACCORDING TO SOME, THE U.S. IS SUFFERING FROM A
HUGE TRADE DEFICIT WITH CHINA, OF ABOUT TEN BILLION US
DOLLARS. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO CHINESE STATISTICS, THIS
IMBALANCE IS MUCH SMALLER, ONLY ABOUT ONE BILLION
DOLLARS. THEREFORE, PREMIER LI SUGGESTED THAT THE TWO
SIDES MEET IN ORDER TO DISCUSS THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
THESE FIGURES.

DISCREPANCIES IN FIGURES DUE TO "TRANSIT TRADE"

25. ACCORDING TO PREMIER LI, RECENTLY THEY HAVE FOUND
SOME MATERIALS WHICH EXPLAIN THE LARGE DISCREPANCY. THE
LARGER FIGURE USED BY THE U.S. SIDE COMES FROM TRANSIT
TRADE, MAINLY THROUGH HONG KONG, WITH SOME ALSO THROUGH
SINGAPORE AND TAIWAN. THIS TRANSIT TRADE IS OF THREE
TYPES.

25. THE FIRST IS MATERIALS PROCESSING, WHERE FOREIGN RAW
MATERIALS COME INTO CHINA FOR PROCESSING FOR EXPORT

ALTHOUGH ONLY THE LABOR VALUE, ABOUT TEN PCT, OF THE
FINISHED PRODUCT REMAINS IN CHINA, THE AMERICAN FIGURES
CONSIDER IT TO BE A 100 PCT CHINESE PRODUCT

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27. THE SECOND TYPE OF TRANSIT TRADE IS THE RESULT OF
THE OPEN DOOR POLICY AND INVOLVES FOREIGN ENTITIES IN
CHINA, SUCH AS JOINT VENTURES, COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES
OR WHOLLY-OWNED FOREIGN ENTERPRISES. THERE IS FIVE
BILLION US DOLLARS OF AMERICAN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN
CHINA. THESE JOINT VENTURES AND OTHER FOREIGN CONNECTED
ENTERPRISES ARE EXPORT ORIENTED. THEY KEEP ALL THE
FOREIGN EXCHANGE WHICH THEY EARN; THAT MONEY DOESN'T GO
INTO THE CHINESE TREASURY.

28. FINALLY, THERE ARE THE WHOLLY CHINESE PRODUCTS WHICH
ARE SHIPPED TO HONG KONG OR OTHER PLACES, REPACKAGED,
AND EXPORTED TO THE U.S. THE MAJORITY OF THIS TRANSIT
TRADE TAKES PLACE THROUGH HONG KONG.

29. PREMIER LI SAID THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE IT WAS FAIR
TO CALL ALL OF THESE THREE TYPES OF TRANSIT TRADE
CHINESE EXPORTS. FURTHERMORE, IF THE U.S. SUSPENDS MFN,
IT WILL BE HONG KONG, AND THE U.S. INVESTED ENTERPRISES
IN CHINA THAT WILL SUFFER THE MOST. PREMIER LI THOUGHT
THERE WAS A CONTRADICTION HERE, BETWEEN AMERICAN
ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE OPEN DOOR POLICY ON ONE HAND, AND
THE POSSIBILITY OF TAKING AWAY MFN.

LI ASKS PRESIDENT CARTER TO USE HIS
INFLUENCE ON BEHALF OF MFN

30. PREMIER LI SAID THAT HE WAS RAISING THIS SUBJECT NOT
TO CRITICIZE THE U.S., AND FURTHERMORE HE WAS AWARE THAT
PRESIDENT CARTER WAS NOW A PRIVATE CITIZEN.
NEVERTHELESS, PRESIDENT CARTER REMAINS A VERY INFLUENTIAL
PERSON IN THE U.S., PARTICULARLY AMONG THE DEMOCRATS,
MANY OF WHOM ARE OPPOSED TO CHINA'S MFN. PREMIER LI
HOPED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BE ABLE TO SHOW THEM
HOW THE U.S. SIDE WOULD SUFFER FROM AN END TO MFN FOR
CHINA. ALSO, SAID PREMIER LI, HE WAS TAKING ADVANTAGE

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INFO LOG-00 ACDA-13 ADS-00 AID-00 AIT-03 AMAD-01 CIAE-00
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P 260909Z APR 91
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4651
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
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AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH

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NRC FOR DOUG PAAL

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PROV, PINR, ECGN, CH, US
SUBJECT: FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH

OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SUGGEST TO AMBASSADOR LILLEY THE
IDEA OF HOLDING A MEETING TO RECONCILE TRADE STATISTICS.

HUMAN RIGHTS MORE IMPORTANT THAN TRADE IMBALANCE
IN THE HFW DEBATE

31. PRESIDENT CARTER RESPONDED THAT HE DID NOT DISAGREE
WITH PREMIER LI ABOUT THE UNFAIRNESS OF COUNTING GOODS
TRANSITING HONG KONG IN CALCULATING CHINA'S TRADE
SURPLUS WITH THE U.S., AND FURTHERMORE HE HOPED THAT THE
DEMOCRATS IN CONGRESS WOULD UNDERSTAND THIS.

32. HOWEVER, HE WANTED TO EMPHASIZE TO PREMIER LI, THE
PROBLEM OVER THE TRADE SURPLUS WAS NOT THE MOST
IMPORTANT ISSUE IN THE HFW DEBATE. WHAT WAS MOST
IMPORTANT WAS SOMETHING WHICH LI'S GOVERNMENT COULD
HANDLE VERY EASILY, BY TAKING STEPS ON HUMAN RIGHTS.
PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THAT IT WAS OF COURSE NOT A QUID
PRO QUO, BUT HE BELIEVED IT WAS IMPERATIVE FOR PREMIER
LI TO UNDERSTAND THE ATTITUDES IN THE U.S. REGARDING THE
TREATMENT OF THOSE INVOLVED IN THE SPRING 1989 DEMOCRACY
MOVEMENT. THESE ATTITUDES ARE HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY THE
CONCERNS OF CHINESE STUDENTS IN THE U.S.

PRESIDENT CARTER URGED AMNESTY

33. PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THAT, AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN, HE
ACKNOWLEDGED THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT'S NEED TO MAINTAIN
ORDER. HE ADDED THAT IT APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN

SUCCESSFUL. NOW ALMOST TWO YEARS HAVE PASSED.
RECOGNIZING THAT IT WAS A VERY SENSITIVE ISSUE,
PRESIDENT CARTER URGED PREMIER LI TO COMMUTE SENTENCES
AND DECLARE AII AMNESTY, ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE, FOR THOSE

INVOLVED IN THE 1989 MOVEMENT. PRESIDENT CARTER TOLD
PREMIER LI THAT HE BELIEVED SUCH AN AMNESTY COULD
RESOLVE THE ISSUE. PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THAT HE
BELIEVED, IF PREMIER LI WERE TO DO THIS, THERE WOULD BE
AN EASY EXTENSION OF HFW BY CONGRESS -- BUT IF IT WAS
NOT DONE, THEN EXTENSION OF HFW MIGHT VERY LIKELY BE
IMPOSSIBLE.

JUDICIARY INDEPENDENT -- BUT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO BE
LENIENT TOWARDS NON-CRIMINAL OFFENDERS

34. PREMIER LI REPLIED THAT IN CHINA THE JUDICIARY IS
INDEPENDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT, JUST AS IT IS IN THE
U.S., AND THEREFORE THE GOVERNMENT COULD NO LONGER DO
ANYTHING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN TURNED OVER TO
THE JUDICIAL ORGANS AND TRIED. THEIR CASES WERE OUT OF
HIS HANDS. HOWEVER, PREMIER LI ADDED THAT IT WOULD BE
POSSIBLE TO DO SOMETHING FOR AND DEAL LENIENTLY WITH
THOSE WHO HAVE NOT VIOLATED THE CRIMINAL CODE OF CHINA
BUT MERELY MADE SOME RADICAL SPEECHES OR TOOK EXTREME,
BUT NOT CRIMINAL ACTIONS.

SEVERE IMPACT ON HONG KONG LIKELY IF CHINA LOSES HFW

35. PREMIER LI SAID THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE A QUID PRO
QUO. FURTHERMORE, IF CHINA LOSES ITS HFW STATUS, THE
CHINESE PEOPLE WILL GO ON LIVING, PERHAPS NOT AS WELL AS

THEY WOULD IF THEY HAD NOT LOST HFW -- PERHAPS NOT EVEN
THAT -- BUT THE ECONOMY OF HONG KONG WOULD BE
DEVASTATED. SINGAPORE AND TAIWAN WOULD NOT BE AS
SERIOUSLY AFFECTED. PREMIER LI SAID THAT HE DID NOT
THINK THAT THE U.S. WANTED TO SEE THE HONG KONG ECONOMY
DAMAGED.

36. PRESIDENT CARTER EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL DESIRE TO
SEE HFW EXTENDED AND, CONCLUDING THE MEETING, PRESENTED

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INFO LOG-00 ACDA-13 ADS-00 AID-00 AIT-03 AMAD-01 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4652
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 08 OF 08 BEIJING 12135

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PINR, ECON, CH, US
SUBJECT: FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH

PREMIER LI WITH A COPY OF "KEEPING FAITH," WHICH
INCLUDED HIS MEMOIR OF NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS
BETWEEN CHINA AND THE U.S.

37. A COPY OF THIS MESSAGE WAS PROVIDED TO FORMER
PRESIDENT CARTER'S PARTY. HE DID NOT CLEAR THE TEXT.

LILLEY

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